

**Substance Abuse Services Commission
Meeting of October 8, 2014
State Office, DHHS, Conference Room C
41 Anthony Avenue
Augusta, Maine**

ATTENDANCE

Members Present:

Peter McCorison, Chair
Bill Lowenstein
Irene Laney
Scott Gagnon
Rep. Ann Dorney (phone)
Robert Creamer

Members Absent/Excused:

Darren Ripley
Robert Rogers
Tom Leonard
Diehl Snyder, MD
Sen. Colleen Lachowicz
Rep. Carol A. McElwee
Rep. Katherine Cassidy
Rep. Peter Stuckey

Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services:

Guy Cousins, Director, SAMHS

Guests:

Tracy Weymouth, PASRR, Complex Case Group Coordinator, SAMHS
Deborah Doiron, AdCare Maine, Recorder

**Substance Abuse Services Commission
Meeting of October 8, 2014
State Office, DHHS, Conference Room C
41 Anthony Avenue
Augusta, Maine**

OCTOBER MINUTES

DRAFT Date:	October 9, 2014	SASC Approved:	
Signed: Recorded by: Deborah Doiron, AdCare Maine			

Meeting Convened: 9:00 A.M.

Adjourned: 12:00

Meeting Convened: By Peter McCorison

Agenda:

- General Meeting Opening: Introductions, Review Agenda; Public Forum

New Business:

- Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting: September 10, 2014
- SAMHS Update – Guy Cousins, Director, SAMHS
- Work on draft recommendations for submission on Increased access to MAT in the State of Maine

Old Business:

- Follow-up on the Letter of request to SAMHS on Recovery
- Follow-up on marijuana legislation information – Scott Gagnon

Prepare Agenda Items for Next Meeting on November 12, 2014

Adjourn meeting 12:00

SASC Meeting – General Opening Statements

Peter McCorison, Chairperson Introductions and Public Guest Comments

Peter McCorison welcomed and thanked members for coming to the meeting and said it was especially good to have Bill Lowenstein back with the group again. He stated that he received a number of e-mails from members who would not be able to attend the meeting. There were not enough members present for a quorum to approve the July, August or September minutes, so the minutes will be moved forward to the November meeting for approval. Peter briefly described the agenda to the members. He also talked about recent substance abuse articles, Darren Ripley's letter to the editor in the Bangor Daily newspaper and exciting news that the State of Maine received a large sum of money for impact on the issue of methamphetamine.

Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS - October Agenda

Topic #1 – Review of Minutes of Previous Meetings – July, August and September Minutes

Discussions: feedback on minutes

The July, August and September minutes have been moved forward to the November meeting for approval. There were not enough members present at this meeting for a quorum.

Conclusions or Actions:

- ☐ **Motion accepted with corrections or amendments to be made to previous month's minutes, Responsible Lead Person – Deb Doiron**

Topic #2 – SAMHS Update – Guy Cousins, Director, SAMHS

Discussion:

Topics reported on:

- 1) **Maine DEA grant award** of \$905,000; Michael Botticelli, Acting Director for the Office of National Drug Control Policy is in Maine for the next two days – He will be in Bangor on the 8th at the City of Bangor's Drug Task Force and in Portland on the 9th at the City of Portland's Task Force and the Recovery Community Center in Portland.
- 2) **Prevention Pillar:** SAMHS continues to work with OCFS. Addiction 101 trainings have been offered by SAMHS to new caseworkers at the OCFS. Christine Theriault, Manager of Prevention Services has been doing these trainings every other month. These trainings have been encompassing both substance abuse and mental health issues. The credentialing work group and interim board met last month and continues to make decisions on what implementations could look like. The timeline and aspiration's to

apply for the ICRC Prevention Credentialing Board is January, 2015. Prevention vacancies: The Project for Success II Grant Director position has been filled by Matthew Braun, who started work on September 2nd. SAMHS also has two student interns, Lori Mitchell and Kali Gilbert working with the Prevention Team. The Marijuana Prevention Workgroup met with Marietta D'Agostino from the Medical Marijuana Program, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Services, Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services. Prevention Provider Day is scheduled for November 5th at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell, Maine. The Fetal Alcohol Conference was held; over 150 participants attended. The Prevention Team is working with the Center for Applied Prevention Training (CAPT) to bring sustainability training to Coalitions across the State. Enforcement of underage drinking laws and higher education alcohol prevention programming is doing strategic planning with a multi-jurisdictional task force across the state - Becky Ireland is coordinating those events. SAMHS has just found out that they will not be able to get a no-cost extension to the EUDL SPT grant.

- 3) **Intervention Pillar:** There is a lot going on with crisis services. SAMHS has crafted an RFP, but they are still completing some steps the RFP can be issued. SAMHS' Crisis Manager, Sharon Arsenault has left the office to take another position. SAMHS has just recently received approval to begin the process for hiring for a new Crisis Manager. The intensive case management program has seen 452 clients this past month. Guy has tasked the supervisors and forensic case managers to attend the local Regional Homelessness Council Meetings. SAMHS has also been doing a lot of collaborative meetings with district attorneys to work with forensic clients coming out of facilities. The SOAR is now an online curriculum. SSI, SSDI outreach access and recovery is now available online - this helps our PATH program for homelessness in determining if an individual qualifies for these services and assistance, as the person is attempting to stabilize in the community. DEEP completed 401 cases for the month of September; 13 educational classes consisting of (274 adults) and (19) under age 21; also provided introductory training for 6 new providers and approved applications for four private providers. DEEP is now scheduling Regional DEEP Meetings. DEEP still needs to fill one more position, but has not received approval yet.
- 4) **Treatment Pillar:** Technical Assistance is being provided to a number of different agencies; work continues on Rider A performance measures, TDS and client satisfaction surveys. Maryann Ryan, Treatment Specialist attended the NEIAS School of Best Practices in New Hampshire last month. SAMHS is working with APS on a number of initiatives that relate to sections of MaineCare, such as the approval process and utilization review process. SAMHS has had a number of trainings going on with our Workforce Development contract, which is a collaborative effort with AdCare, Co-occurring Services of Maine (CCSME) and the Muskie Institute. The trainings cover identified deliverables that SAMHS feels is needed by the workforce. Guy will send a link out on this information. Anna Black is continuing to do a lot work with the SAT-ED grant, which deals with adolescent treatment and recovery services for both substance abuse and mental health. One of the objectives of this grant is to expand the use of Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA). Anna is currently pulling together a workgroup for this. This grant also requires that an Interagency Advisory Council be created. The council consists of Directors, Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors from SAMHS, OCFS, MeCDC, OMS, and Corrections. The Council is currently soliciting more members, such as the Department of Education or any program working with adolescents and youth needing substance abuse services. The grant

requirements also ask programs to look at the financial mapping across these offices to see if there is a better way of doing things and to make sure there are more coordinated efforts to produce an effective and efficient use of funds. SAMHS is currently working with a pilot site in Vinalhaven through a QHC, creating one stop shopping for services. SAMHS is encouraging use and promotion of young people in recovery to be part of this work. Guy is now in conversation with a few others about doing more pilot work, but there are limited funds to make this happen. When this federal grant money has been completed, there needs to be a sustainability plan developed for continuing these efforts. The treatment locator on our website is in the process of being expanded to include mental health provider resources, along with the current substance abuse resources. The newly created locator will use basically the same sort of drop down menus as the old system.

- 5) **Recovery Pillar:** SAMHS is working on connecting employment and recovery; DHHS and Department of Labor are working together on having their first Employment Summit on October 17 and in February. Mary Mayhew, Commissioner of DHHS, Jeanne Paquette, Commissioner, Department of Labor, James Rier, Commissioner of Department of Education, Justin Alford, President of the Maine Senate and Eve Hill, Senior Counselor, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice will be doing the key note for this Summit. Guy states that Maine has been a housing first state for a long time, but now having an employment first event recognizes that both these fundamental elements are needed in order to have a stable recovery. SAMHS is continuing to work on their Recovery website, but has been going slowly with this, because they want to make sure it has significant substance of resources for both substance abuse and mental health. Bill Lowenstein suggested that a language change be made on the section of the Wellness and Recovery link. Bill states that when he clicked on this link, the first sentence states it is for mental health clients, which can be confusing. Guy stated that SAMHS is currently looking at what people first see on the site and how it directs them. Guy stated the website is a work in progress and they are working on improving the quality and making the site both substance abuse and mental health engaging;
- 6) **BJA Grant 2012** – Guy stated that SAMHS did receive a no cost extension for this grant and they are now working on the award letter for their 2014 grant.
- 7) **PMP** – Guy reported a 92% registration rate, and now needs to explore where the 8% non-registration rate is coming from. There is a PMP Interstate Data Exchange with Kentucky. There has been a rule change for the data upload from one week to 24 hours. Guy discussed PMP goals and using dashboard information.
- 8) **Program Fiscal Coordinator:** Todd Haber has been hired into this position. He has been receiving three weeks of orientation and will begin working next week with David Dostie, who is the Finance Manager for SAMHS.
- 9) **Strategic Planning** – SAMHS has been working with a consultant, Dr. Sheena Bunnell surrounding the work they have done over the last three years around supporting integration. Guy would like to present a draft of this strategic plan to the Commission members and would like feedback from the group. The planning team consists of about 25 people and it contains a lot of NIATx elements.
- 10) **Other Grants** - Guy described a couple of grants that are being funneled through other offices - a time grant on prevention and early intervention with OCFS; Labor Programs – using pilot sites and triple P services.
- 11) **Peer Support Services** - RFP plan will be released the beginning of January.

- 12) **RFP's** – SAMHS is currently in the process of developing with the support of the Commissioner's Office a new position to coordinate the RFP's. This person will be responsible for the writing and coordination of the work. SAMHS will be using a position that has not yet been filled, along with another half time position. They are in the process of finalization of the FJA.

Other topics discussed:

Ann Dorney asked if SAMHS coordinates with the prisons and jails about the use of best practices for inmates who have substance abuse problems. Guy stated that it depends on what level of incarceration it involves. Right now SAMHS works with the correctional facility's forensic ICM, as it relates to the person's legal involvement. The forensic ICM supports the individual with issues related to substance abuse and mental health while they are incarcerated and establishes a transitional plan for when the person leaves the facility. SAMHS has been working with the correctional facilities around the use of DSAT Programs. SAMHS is currently working with DOC around changing the DSAT Program to be more open and modifying the program courses. Peter stated that there are other provider programs in the community that work with the jail systems also.

The Medical Marijuana Program is overseen by the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Services. Guy stated that Marietta D'Agostino is the Program Manager for the Medical Marijuana Program and she can be contacted regarding this program if anyone has questions. Her number is 287-5810. Guy also stated that he could connect with Marietta and ask her to come speak at one of the Commission meetings in the future. It was agreed that members would like to see this happen. Guy stated that he would contact Marietta.

Youth Recovery represents a group of youths in recovery: Guy stated this group has recently agreed to merge with Faces and Voices of Recovery to become Young People in Recovery, which is a national organization. Andrew Kiezulas is the contact person for Maine Youth & Recovery. Matthew Braun, who is a Prevention Specialist with SAMHS now also worked with this organization. This group is significantly involved with the pilot project in Vinalhaven and they are regular attendees at Mayor Brennan's Task Force and the Recovery Community Center in Portland. They are working to expand their group. Guy stated he will connect with Andrew and Matt to see if the November or December dates would be good for them to come and present to the Commission.

Conclusions or Actions, Responsible Lead Person, timeline if applicable:

Guy Cousins will contact before the next Commission Meeting, Marietta, D'Agostino, Program Manager for the Medical Marijuana Program and Andrew Kiezulas, Maine Youth & Recovery and Matt Braun, Prevention Specialist, SAMHS to see what month they could come do presentations to the SASC Members.

BREAK

Topic #3 – Work on recommendations for submission on Increased Access to MAT in the State of Maine:

Discussion:

Peter announced to the members that the Commission sent a letter of request for a waiver on the due date for the MAT Recommendations to Commissioner Craven and the Chair for the House. Peter stated that the Commission did receive an extension. The recommendations are not due until November 17th, the Monday after our next meeting. The Commission members need to have the MAT Recommendations completed by the next meeting on November 12th. The Commission Members went over the draft MAT recommendations again, making additional edits. Tracy Weymouth, was present and assisted the Members with questions they had and also agreed to gather other information they would like to see included in the MAT recommendations. Tracy also offered the Members examples of other ways to deliver medication assisted drugs through office based OBOTS or medication units. She gave descriptions of each method of delivery. Peter and members then continued making edits to the draft recommendations. Peter stated that he would incorporate the changes and then have Deb send this out to members this week for review.

Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:

Peter McCorison will update the edits of the draft MAT Recommendations and Deb Doiron will send out the draft to Commission Members by the end of this week for another review.

Old Business:

Topic #4 – Follow-up on Recovery Letter for SAMHS regarding the Recovery pillar:

Discussion:

Peter asked members about any additional edits for the Recovery Letter before giving it to SAMHS. The members then added some more changes. It was suggested that the Commission address the letter to Guy Cousins and cc Commissioner Mary Mayhew. Bill offered a one page fact sheet regarding recovery that the Commission may be able to use. Bill said he would e-mail the fact sheet to members. Bob Creamer asked that we double check the statement on the figure of 23.5 million Americans being in long term recovery. It was decided that this figure needs to be researched and verified.

Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:

Bill Lowenstein will e-mail the one page fact sheet on recovery to the members.

Topic #5 – Follow-up on Marijuana legislation information – Scott Gagnon

Discussions:

Scott Gagnon gave an update of the Marijuana Legislation. He stated that the Lewiston School Committee voted on a resolution on this topic. Part of the resolution was to send a letter to the SASC Commission regarding Lewiston's opposition of the legalization of marijuana. Scott said we should receive it soon. The letter is similar to the one the South Portland City Council sent to the Commission previously.

Conclusions or Actions and Responsible Lead Person; timeline if applicable:

N/A

Prepare Agenda Items for the next meeting on November 12, 2014:

Agenda for November:

Presentation by Young People in Recovery group

SAMHS update

Finalizing the MAT/MAR document

Finalize Recovery Letter to be sent to Guy Cousins, Director of SAMHS and Mary Mayhew,
Commissioner of DHHS

Request Letter for SAMHS regarding Marijuana Information

Adjourn Meeting: 12:00